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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL <i>(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))</i>	Attorney Docket No.	R128-1
	First Inventor	Robert L. Philpott
	Title	Personal Hygiene Cleansing Apparatus
	Express Mail Label No.	EL037272917US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS <i>See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.</i>	ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231
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1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) <i>(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)</i> 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages <input type="text"/>] <i>(preferred arrangement set forth below)</i> - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets <input type="text"/>] 5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages <input type="text"/>] a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76	7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) 8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies
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ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Power of (when there is an assignee) Attorney 11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations 13. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment 14. <input type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed) 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
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18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No. _____ / _____

Prior application information Examiner _____ Group Art Unit _____

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below			
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Signature	Jonathan R. Smith	Date	11/17/00

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**FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2001**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	11/17/00
First Named Inventor	Robert L. Philpott
Examiner Name	
Group Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	R128-1

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)355.00**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:
- Deposit Account Number
- Deposit Account Name
- ☐ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status See 37 CFR 1.27
2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:
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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE					
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101	710	201	355	Utility filing fee	355.00
106	320	206	160	Design filing fee	
107	490	207	245	Plant filing fee	
108	710	208	355	Reissue filing fee	
114	150	214	75	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$) <u>355.00</u>

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20** = <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	= <input type="text"/>
Multiple Dependent	-3** = <input type="text"/>	X <input type="text"/>	= <input type="text"/>

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
103	18	203	9	Claims in excess of 20
102	80	202	40	Independent claims in excess of 3
104	270	204	135	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	80	209	40	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2)

(\$)

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FEE CALCULATION (continued)

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	
116	390	216	195	Extension for reply within second month	
117	890	217	445	Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,390	218	695	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,890	228	945	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	310	219	155	Notice of Appeal	
120	310	220	155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	270	221	135	Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,240	241	620	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,240	242	620	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	440	243	220	Design issue fee	
144	600	244	300	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	130	123	130	Petitions related to provisional applications	
126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	710	246	355	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	710	249	355	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179	710	279	355	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)					
SUBTOTAL (3)					(\$)

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Jonathan R. Smith	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47098	Complete (if applicable)	
Signature	Jonathan R. Smith	Telephone	912/264-4100	Date	11/17/00

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
APPLICATION FOR UTILITY PATENT

5

PREAMBLE

INVENTOR: Robert L. Philpott

APPLICANT: Robert L. Philpott

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TITLE OF INVENTION: **PERSONAL HYGIENE CLEANSING APPARATUS**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

It is commonplace in developed countries to cleanse one's nether body parts with either bathroom tissue or a bidet, or both, after using the toilet. The problem with tissue alone is that sometimes it is not sufficient to cleanse completely enough to suit the user. The problems with the bidet, on the other hand, are plumbing cost and space requirements for installation. The present invention provides the same or greater cleansing thoroughness of the bidet at significantly less cost and essentially no additional required space.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention is a cleansing apparatus to connect to existing hot and cold water supply lines in a bathroom, that would be either built into a wall or vanity, hung on or hinged to a vertical surface, or made portable in either a cart or carrying case. The apparatus comprises means for mixing the hot and cold water and conveying the water stream to a hand-held sprayer having a built-in control valve. Means are also provided, optionally, for adding soap solution to the stream. The invention also provides a bracket for holding the spray head when it is not in use. The invention also comprises alternative sprayer heads which can be attached to, or substituted for, each other by the user or by multiple users.

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Objects of this invention are to provide: a) a space- and money-saving alternative to a bidet for personal hygiene cleansing; b) a discreet and unobtrusive personal hygiene cleansing apparatus; c) a portable apparatus for personal hygiene cleansing; d) a personal hygiene apparatus that can be used with interchangeable spray heads; e) a personal hygiene cleansing apparatus that will add soap or other additives to the water conveniently and at the user's discretion.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is an exploded view of a first generic embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 2 is an exploded view of a second, built-in, embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 3 is an exploded view of a third, soap-applying, embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a fourth, portable, embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of interchangeable spray heads for the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Referring now in detail to the drawings, in which like numerals depict like features in all drawings:

25

Figure 1 is an exploded view of a first embodiment of the invention. A hot water supply line 1 and a cold water supply line 2 are connected to a hot water tube 3 and a cold water tube 4 respectively, either directly or through isolation valves 5 and 6. The tubes 3 and 4 are connected in turn to a mixer 7, containing one or more mixer valves 8 capable of being manually adjusted to control the proportions of hot and cold water fed through the invention and thereby the temperature of the water. Figure 1 shows two valves with separate valve bodies, but the valve bodies may be combined into a single body with multiple flow paths. The configuration of the mixer is not important as long as the mixer is capable of controlling the individual proportions of the hot and cold water. The mixer outlet 9 is connected to a flexible hose 10, which in turn is connected to a hand-held spray gun 11. The spray gun 11 comprises a valve body 12, a

5 spray head 13 and a valve handle 14 that is spring-biased and normally closed. Once the temperature of the water is adjusted to a satisfactory level by adjusting the mixer valve or valves 8, pressing the handle 14 opens the valve body 12 and allows properly attemperated water to emerge from the spray head 13 for application to a user's body. A bracket 15, attachable to a vertical surface and shaped to hold valve body 12 when not in use, may be provided. The mixer 7 may be built into a generic faucet assembly 16, shown here as environmental structure.

10 Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a second, built-in, embodiment of the invention. In this embodiment, hot and cold water tubes 3 and 4 come from isolation valves 5 and 6 (not shown) within a space 20 fronted by a vertical panel 21 as may be found in a wall, cabinet, vanity, or the like. Mixer 7 and bracket 15 are mounted on the inside surface 22 of a door 23, which is attached by hinges 24 to panel 21, and may be opened outwardly by pulling on door handle 25. The extreme positions of door 23 may be delimited by latch 26 and rail assembly 27. A user seated on a toilet nearby may access the invention by pulling door 23 open and pulling spray gun 11 upwardly through bracket 15, and then by extending hose 10 sufficiently to reach into a position directing water into the toilet. By pressing valve handle 14, water can be sprayed into the toilet and tested for the proper temperature. The temperature can be adjusted as desired by adjusting mixer 7. Then the spray gun 11 can be pointed toward the user's body and the flow and force of the water stream controlled by the valve handle 14 to clean the body completely and comfortably. After use, the valve handle 14 is released, stopping the flow of water, and the user can dry off the spray gun 11 with tissue and return it to its bracket 15. When the door 23 is closed in the direction of arrow C, the invention is hidden from view and protected from dust.

15 20 25 30 Fig. 3 is an exploded view of a third, soap-applying, embodiment of the invention. In this embodiment, cold water tube 4 is connected to a check valve 35, thence to one arm 30 of a tubing tee 31. A second arm 32 of the tee 31 is connected to a second tube 33, which directs water to the mixer 7 for mixing with water from the hot water tube 3. To the third arm 34 of the tee 31 is connected a lower petcock 36 which allows a side stream of water to enter a soap tank 37 at inlet tap 38. An outlet tap 39 at the top of the soap tank 37 allows soapy water to flow via soap tube 40 to the inlet of soap control petcock 41. Watertight cap 42 on tank 37 allows soap to be added into the tank, or cleaning of the tank. The outlet of soap control petcock 41 may be attached directly to the outlet of mixer 7 (as shown) or it may be attached to (not shown) or built into (not shown) spray gun 11 so that the user can control soap application and water flow with one hand. In these latter cases, soap tube 40 is extended to the spray gun preferably by being attached alongside or wrapped around hose 10.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a fourth, portable, embodiment of the invention. In this illustration, it is embodied in a wheeled cart 50, although the same assembly could be fitted into a carrying case or other means of portage. The functional difference between this embodiment and the third embodiment is that there is only one water tube 51 instead of hot and cold water tubes 3 and 4 (not shown). A flexible funnel 52 is used to connect the apparatus to a sink or bathtub faucet (not shown) after the temperature of the water has been adjusted properly at the sink or faucet. The water from tube 51 flows to one arm of a tee 53, where it is split to a soap tank supply hose 54 and a fresh water supply hose 55. The soap tank supply hose 54 goes to a lower petcock 36 and thence to the soap tank 37. The soap tank 37 is mounted within cabinet 56 so that its watertight cap 42 may be opened at an accessible surface 57 of the cabinet 56. Cabinet 56 is shown here with rigid transparent walls so that components of the invention can be seen, but neither transparency nor rigidity of walls is a necessary aspect of the invention. The fresh water supply hose 55 goes to a mixer 7 where the flow of fresh water is controlled by a water valve 58. Soapy water leaves soap tank 37 via soap supply hose 40 to mixer 7 where its flow is controlled by soap valve 59. Mixed water leaves the mixer 7 via hose 10 to enter spray gun 11. Spray gun 11 is stored in recess 60 in surface 57 when not in use. Funnel 52 likewise is stored in hole 61 in surface 57 when not in use. When the invention is installed in a cart 50, typically the cart may comprise additionally a handle 62, wheels 63 and a foot 64 for ease of handling, but other means of portability including casters or a shoulder strap are not meant to be excluded by these depictions.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view the spray gun 11 configured to receive detachable and interchangeable spray tips. This is a variation of the spray gun 11 portion of the invention in which the spray gun 11 does not have a built in spray tip, but instead a quick connect 80. Several spray heads of identical function but for different users 81a, 81b, and 81c, etc., or spray heads of different function (e.g., angles, spray patterns) 82a, 82b, and 82c, etc., can be connected to quick connect 80 as needed.

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 5 1. A cleansing apparatus connectable to a whole number of pressurized liquid sources, comprising:
a whole number of tubes for delivering respective liquids from the respective sources to an equal
whole number of respective valves;
the valves being controlled by the same whole number of respective actuators;
the valves controlling the flow of the respective liquids into a common header where they are
10 mixed;
the mixed flow passing through a flexible hose to a spray gun;
the spray gun having a spray tip for applying the mixed flow to the body of a user.
- 15 2. The apparatus of claim 1, connectable to said whole number of pressurized liquid sources plus one
additional pressurized liquid source, further comprising:
one additional tube for delivering an additional liquid from the one additional pressurized liquid
source to a flow splitting device;
the flow splitting device creating a bypass stream and a tank input stream;
the tank input stream going to an additive tank;
20 the additive tank having watertight means for introduction of an additive to the tank;
the tank input stream and the additive mixing together in the tank and creating a tank output
stream;
the bypass stream going to a first additional valve being controlled by a first additional actuator;
the tank output stream going to a second additional valve being controlled by a second additional
25 actuator;
the first and second additional valves controlling the flow of the bypass stream and the tank output
stream into said common header.
- 30 3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein:
said spray tip is detachable from said spray gun, and is interchangeable with alternative spray tips.
4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein:
said spray tip comprises means for manual adjustment of spray pattern width and direction.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein:
said actuators and said spray gun are mounted within easy reach from a toilet.
6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein:
said apparatus is mounted on a first surface of a door;
the door being hinged to an enclosure surrounding a space;
the first surface facing inwardly to the space, the door hiding at least a portion of the apparatus
from view when closed.
7. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein:
said apparatus is mounted in a portable case, the case providing user access to said tubes, said
actuators, said watertight means, and said spray gun.
8. The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising said alternative spray tips and user access to said
alternative spray tips.
9. A cleansing apparatus, comprising:
a faucet comprising first, second, and third inlets;
a first water supply tube feeding a first stream of water to the first inlet of the faucet;
a second water supply tube feeding a second stream of water to a flow splitting means, the
splitting means splitting the second stream into a third stream and a fourth stream;
the third stream going to the second inlet of the faucet;
the fourth stream going to an additive tank, and thence to the third inlet of the faucet;
the tank having watertight means for introduction of additive to the tank;
the faucet combining said first, third, and fourth streams into a mixed flow;
the mixed flow going to a spray gun.
10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein:
said fourth stream goes to an additive tank and thence to a first input on a flow merging means;
said mixed flow going to a second input on the flow merging means;
the flow merging means yielding a merged flow;
the merged flow going to a spray gun.
11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

said flow merging means comprises separate flow controlling means for said first input and said second input.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:

said controlling means are actuatable by the fingers of one hand, and said controlling means and said flow merging means are built into said spray gun; the spray gun having a spray tip for applying the mixed flow to the body of a user.

13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein:

said spray tip is detachable from said spray gun, and is interchangeable with alternative spray tips.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

said spray tip comprises means for manual adjustment of spray pattern width and direction.

15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

said actuators and said spray gun are mounted within easy reach from a toilet.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein:

said apparatus is mounted on a first surface of a door; the door being hinged to an enclosure surrounding a space; the first surface facing inwardly to the space, the door hiding at least a portion of the apparatus from view when closed.

17. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein:

said apparatus is mounted in a portable case, the case providing user access to said tubes, said actuators, said watertight means, and said spray gun.

18. The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising said alternative spray tips and user access to said alternative spray tips.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A personal hygiene cleansing apparatus for use on the toilet is connected to hot and cold water supply lines in a bathroom. The water flows from these lines to a manually-controlled mixer for temperature control and then delivered to a hand-held spray gun. The apparatus may be built in to a wall or vanity, or it may be installed in a case for portability. Optionally, the apparatus comprises a soap tank which mixes soap with a portion of the incoming water for controlled application with the spray gun.

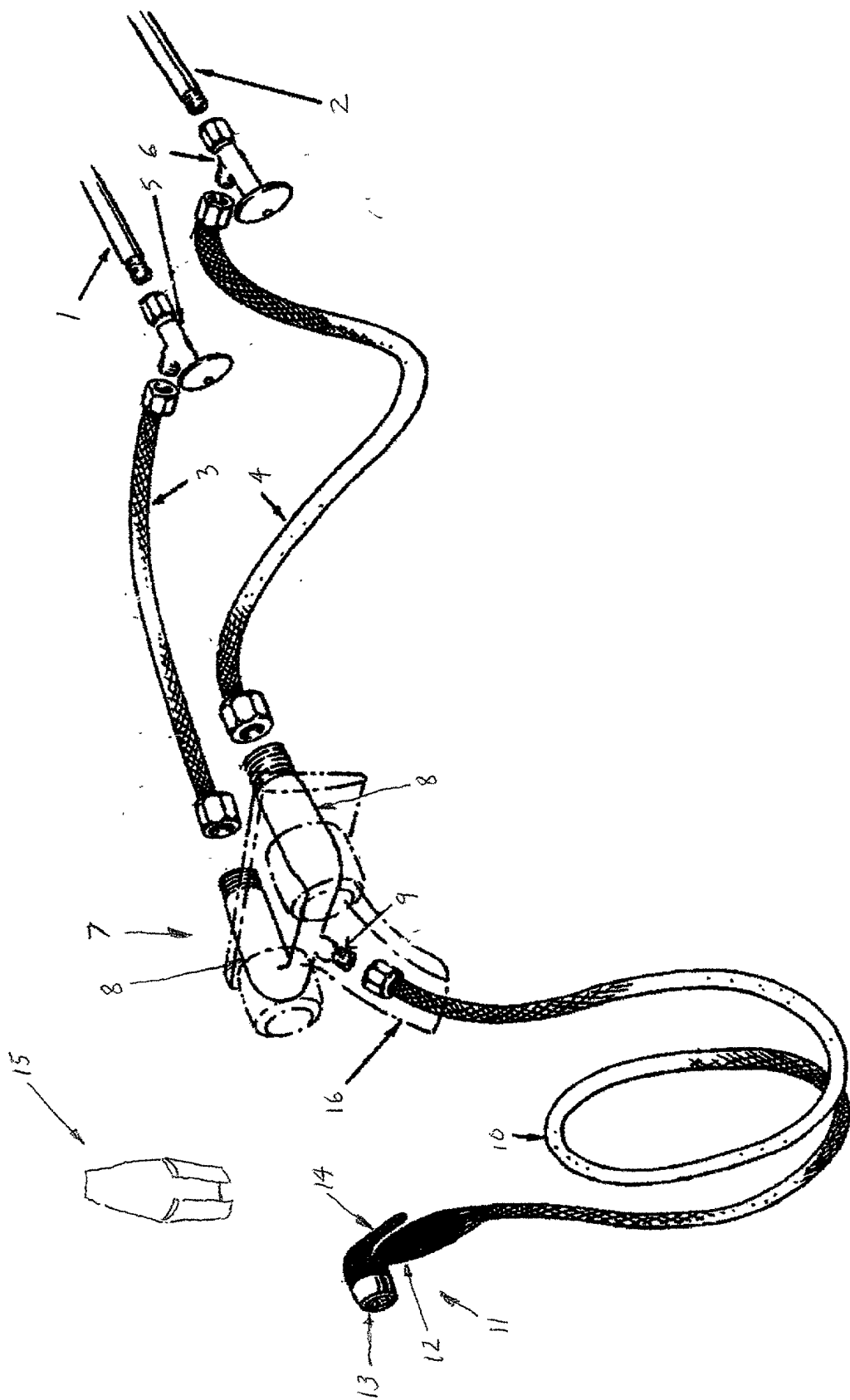


FIG. 1

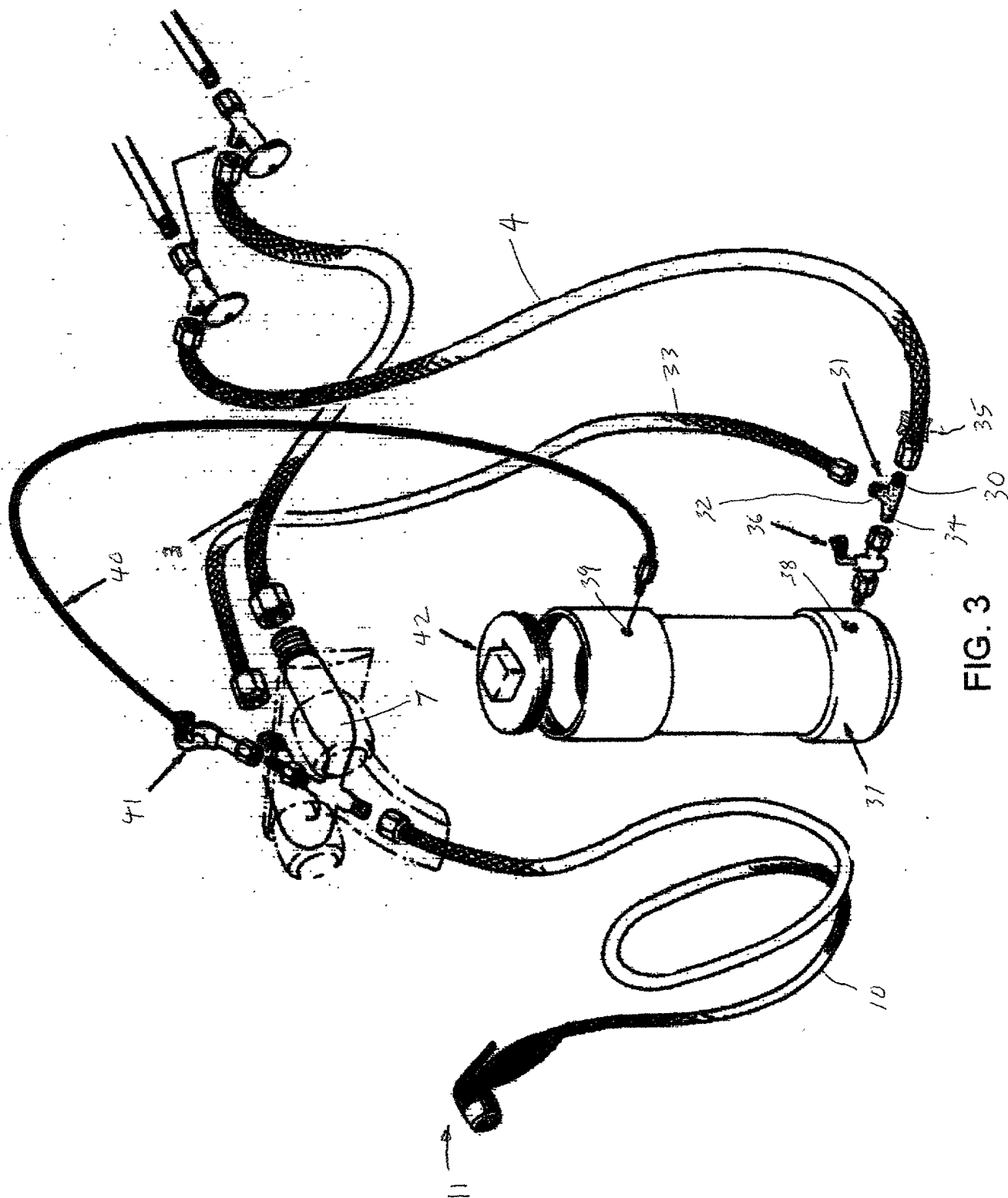


FIG. 3

FIG. 4

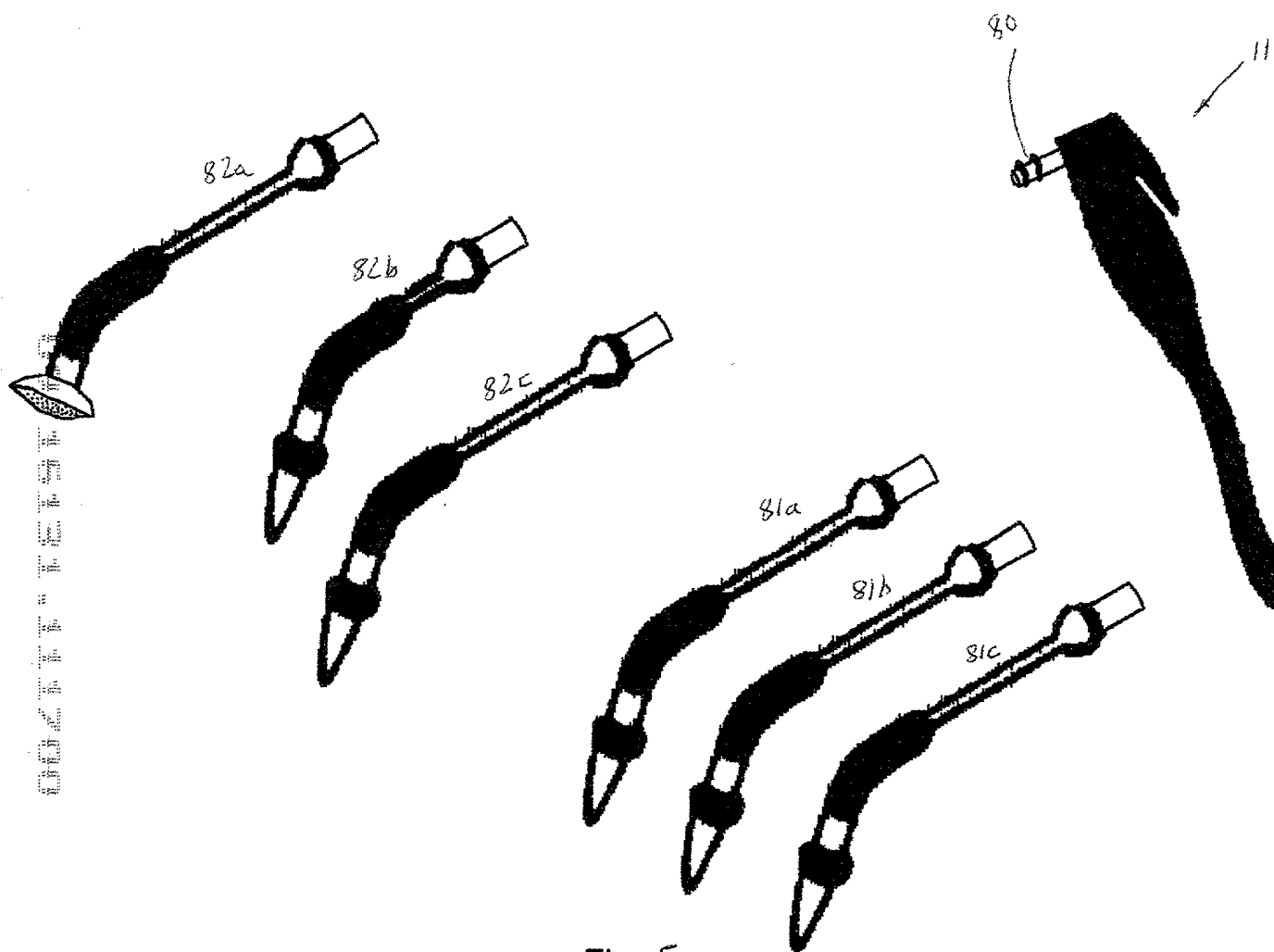



Fig. 5

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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)	Attorney Docket Number	R128-1
	First Named Inventor	Robert L. Philpott
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
	Application Number	
	Filing Date	11/17/00
	Group Art Unit	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)
Examiner Name		

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PERSONAL HYGIENE CLEANSING APPARATUS

(Title of the Invention)

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto

OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)

as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number

and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)

(if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
			<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 2]

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NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:



A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name

(first and middle [if any])

Robert L.

Family Name
or Surname

Philpott

Inventor's
Signature

Robert L. Philpott

Date

11/17/00

Residence: City

Brunswick

State

GA

Country

USA

Citizenship

USA

Mailing Address

Mailing Address

City

Brunswick

State

GA

ZIP

31520

Country

USA

NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:



A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name

(first and middle [if any])

Family Name
or Surname

Inventor's
Signature

Date

Residence: City

State

Country

Citizenship

Mailing Address

Mailing Address

City

State

ZIP

Country

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.